



Racism and Resistance | SOP77022

Year	MPhil
ECTS Credits	10
Contact Hours	
Mandatory/Optional	Optional
Semester	
Module Coordinator	Dr David Ralph, Department of Sociology, TCD
Contact Email	

Module Description:

We live in a world in which racism is opposed and denied as often as it is practiced. Viewing racism and anti-racism as collective political acts rather than expressions of individual understanding or ignorance, this module examines how politicised racism and anti-racism is articulated and practiced. The module examines key sites of contemporary racist and anti-racist political activism, drawing on examples such as the Black Lives Matter movement and pro- and anti-refugee solidarity activism in Europe.

Drawing on theories of social movements as well as interrogating the rhetoric of racism and anti-racism, the module firstly examines the rationale and practices of far-right and racist movements. Anti-racist groups have faced both the articulated racism of these groups as well as a more hidden but deeply embedded racism within society, and the module examines the issues such groups face – and how they have responded to these challenges. A key question is whether anti-racist groups have further embedded the language of race and racism in political life.

The problems and possibilities of anti-racist activism are examined both with respect to theoretical discussions surrounding anti-racism and post-race, but also through critically analysing the vehicles through which anti-racism is practiced – NGOs and social movements.

Learning Outcomes

Upon completion, students are expected to be able to critically:

- Apply social movement theories to racism and anti-racism activism
- Explain key contemporary conflicts surrounding racism and anti-racism
- Develop an understanding of contemporary far-right and racist movements
- Evaluate contemporary debates surrounding anti-racism and post-race.



Delivery and syllabus:

The module is delivered in 11 seminar slots consisting of a lecturing input, student participation and informal presentations. Students are expected to read before each session to facilitate discussion.

Main topics

- Far right and racist movements and ideologies
- Theorising social movements and NGOs
- The history and practice of anti-racism
- Theoretical critique of anti-racism.
- Case studies: Black Lives Matter, The European migrant/refugee crisis.

Recommended Texts

There is no set text, but the following texts will prove useful (all available in the library):

- Bonnett, Alastair. 2000 *Anti-racism* London; New York : Routledge.
- Kundnani, Arun. 2015. *The Muslims are coming! : Islamophobia, extremism, and the domestic war on terror.*
- Lentin, Ronit and Elena Moreo. 2012. *Migrant Activism and Integration from Below in Ireland*, edited by. London: Palgrave Macmillan.
- Lentin, Alana. 2004. *Racism and anti-racism in Europe*. London, Pluto
- Nyers, Peter and Kim Rygiel. 2012. *Citizenship, Migrant Activism and the Politics of Movement* by (eds). Abingdon: Routledge
- Snow, David, Sarah Soule, and Hanspeter Kriesi (eds). 2007. *The Blackwell companion to social movements*. Oxford: Blackwell.
- Taylor, Keeanga-Yamahtta. 2016. *From #Blacklivesmatter to Black Liberation*. Haymarket
- Tarrow, Sidney. 2012. *Power in Movement: Social Movements and Contentious Politics*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Course notes: Blackboard

Assessment

Assessment will be in the form of module diary (30%) and essay (70%).